

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached two sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 4 and 9. These sheets, which include Figs. 3, 4 and 9, replace the original sheets including Figs. 3, 4 and 9.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as currently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 are currently pending. The present amendment amends Claims 1-6 and 8-14. No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings were objected to because of informalities; the specification was objected to because of informalities; and Claims 1-14 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-19 of Application Serial No. 10/368,535.

In response to the objection to the drawings, submitted herewith is a Letter Submitting Replacement Drawing Sheets along with 2 Replacement Sheets for Figs. 4 and 9 modified as requested in the Office Action. Specifically, the "context" box is labeled "12" and the "useful signature" box is labeled "28" in Fig. 4, and the "useful signature" box is labeled "28" rather than "16" in Fig. 9. Accordingly, the drawings are now believed to be compliant and no further objection on this basis is anticipated.

In response to the objection to the specification, the cited informalities, along with a few other informalities detected in the specification, have been corrected. Accordingly, the specification is now believed to be compliant and no further objection on this basis is anticipated.

In response to the provisional rejection of Claims 1-14 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting, Applicant herewith files a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321 thereby removing any issue of the double patenting with respect to Claims 1-14. For the record, Applicant notes that the "filing of a terminal disclaimer simply

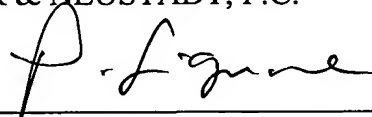
serves the statutory function of removing the rejection of double patenting, and raises neither a presumption nor estoppel on the merits of the rejection.”¹

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-14 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ Quad Environmental Technologies Corp. v. Union Sanitary District, 946 F.2d 870, 874, 20 USPQ2d 1392, 1394-5 (Fed. Cir. 1991).